

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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The Doctor Looks Down Your Throat

BY EVANGELIST CHAS. E. FULLER

(Sermon preached Sunday night, February 7, 1943, on "Old Fashioned Revival Hour" Broadcast. Stenographically reported for *The Sword*.)

Now, with your Bibles opened to the first chapter of the book of Romans, may I remind you that Romans is a "court" book. There are sixteen chapters of judicial decrees issued from the bench of the supreme court of heaven. The theme of Romans is found in the first chapter, verses 16 and 17: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." And then beginning at chapter one, verses 18 to 32, we find a general bill of indictment against the entire human race, twenty-one counts are listed in this indictment showing the need for that gospel.

In chapter two we find Paul speaking to two classes of humanity: first, those who esteem themselves better than those whose sins are so outstanding or so scarlet as pictured in chapter one; and those who think they are better because of their religious connections, or church connections, or social standing. And Paul sums it up by saying that these two classes also need the gospel.

And then in the second chapter we find this, that God has appointed a day in which He shall judge the secrets of men by Christ Jesus according to his gospel. God has appointed a day of judgment and we know for a certainty that that day of judgment will come to pass because "he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him (that is, Christ) from the dead." (Acts 17:31).



Rev. Fuller

Now, last Sunday we saw that there were seven great principles or phases of judgment which the righteous Judge will follow on that day of coming judgment. It is all outlined there in chapter 2:

according to truth, according to accumulated guilt, according to works, etc.

And then in the 3rd chapter of Romans, verse 9, we find the summary of that general bill of indictment. Here it is: "What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin." All right.

Now one of the main rules for teaching, is repetition; that is, to repeat, to restate, to drive home the truth by repetition and illustration. Now that is exactly what we find in chapter 3, verses 10 to 18. God takes the truth that He has been giving in the first chapter of Romans and repeats it from another angle and illustrates what He is repeating. And all that is gone before is summed up in verses 10 to 18. We find God speaking first as a Judge in verses 10 to 12; He is a Physician or Doctor in verses 13 to 15; and then He is a divine Historian in verses 16 to 18. Not a very complimentary picture of the human heart. Oh, listen, your heart is deceitful above all else and desperately wicked. Now, in verses 10 to 12 God describes man's character. In verses 13 to 15 the great Physician diagnoses man's condition by observing his conduct. You know, a good physician endeavors to find the cause of your illness by carefully

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Christians Are To Wash One Another's Feet

BY EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE

After Jesus had washed the disciples' feet, He drew lessons from it and gave commands for us. In John 13:12-17, Jesus said,

"So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you?"

"Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am.

"If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet.

"For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.

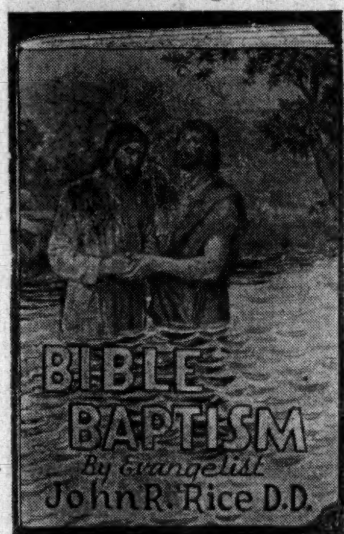
"If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them."

Jesus has now "taken up his garments" again. He has returned to the Father. He has been glorified with the glory which He had with the Father before the world was (John 15:5). He Who created all the worlds, now sustains them; "by him all things consist" (Col. 1:17). He is now set down with the Father in the Father's throne in Heaven (Rev. 3:21). Hebrews 1:

3 tells us that Christ is now "the brightness of his (God's) glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power," that He has now "sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high." And after Jesus, that fateful night, had put on again His garments and

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Lovely New Book, 8 Chapters, 64 Large Pages, Free With One-Year Subscription to "The Sword of the Lord," if You Hurry

Thousands of letters have come in with subscriptions to *The Sword of the Lord* asking for the free premium of the new book, "Bible Baptism," by Editor John R. Rice. We are praying for 6,000 subscriptions before this offer closes.

The offer definitely closes Wednesday, April 28, and you must get your letter in the mail before midnight of April 28 if you want this vitally important and attractive book as a free gift with a one-year subscription to *The Sword of the Lord*. You have not long to wait. You had better get your letter in the mail today.

Remember all you have to do is to send names and addresses correctly, of those for whom you wish to subscribe for *The Sword of the Lord*, enclosing \$1.00 for each subscription. Please say whether the subscription is a new one or a renewal, to save us trouble, and tell where you want the book, "Bible Baptism," sent in each case. The books will be sent immediately and the subscriptions enrolled at once. You may take advantage of the offer for yourself, renewing your subscription, or you may subscribe for others. You may send as many subscriptions on this offer as you like. Help us get the 6,000 subscriptions and so spread the blessed ministry of this paper. Send your subscriptions to *The Sword of the Lord* Publishers, 145 North Hale Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

Every New Convert Needs Both

How we wish every new-born Christian in America could have the rich help of *The Sword of the Lord* with warm, fervent Bible messages by Dr. Ironside, of Moody Church, Chicago, Rev. Charles E. Fuller, the world renowned radio evangelist, now heard literally in every country in the world; of the Spirit-filled Jew, Evangelist Hyman Appleman, Fort Worth, whose rich sermon is printed in this issue; of Dr. Robert G. Lee, the pastor of the great Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, one of the foremost orators and soul winners in America; of Dr. Oswald J. Smith, Toronto, Canada, pastor of the People's Church, author of many books, famous as a mission-

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The Recorded Jesus

BY EVANGELIST HYMAN APPLEMAN

825 Woodland, Fort Worth, Texas

(Sermon preached February 18, 1943, over Christian Business Men's Broadcast over WJJD, Chicago. Mechanically recorded for *The Sword*.)

This afternoon for our meditation, for our information, for our inspiration, there are two verses of Scripture I should like to bring to your minds. You will find them in the twentieth chapter of the gospel according to John, the last two verses, verses 30 and 31,

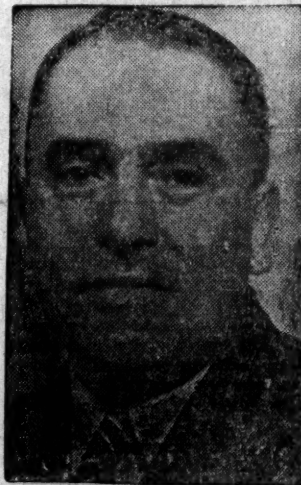
"And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:

"But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing, ye might have life through his name."

Let me read that last verse again,

"But these are written (these things right here in this blessed gospel) — these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing, ye might have life through his name."

You know when I first became a Christian—it will be eighteen years this coming March—I was wavering uncertain in my faith. I was never sure, until I came across this passage of Scripture and another in the book of Romans, where Paul the apostle said, "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God." I used to think when I first started out on my Christian journey (of course I wasn't a preacher for long years after I was converted), that this having great faith was something like Dr. Coue suggested in this country years ago. I remember when I was a young fellow, he came here and told us that if we kept on saying often enough, "Day by day and in every way I am getting prettier and prettier; day by day in every way I am getting smarter and smarter; day by day in every way I am getting better and better," after awhile we would get so pretty, they would give us all jobs out yonder in Hollywood; after awhile we would get so smart we would all be elected President of the United States; after awhile we would get so good that we'd need nothing else, that this world wouldn't contain us. And some of us were fools enough to fall for that so called psychology. It doesn't work that way. I used to think getting faith was like that. You just kept on asking for it, kept on talking to yourself about it, until after a while you had a staunch, firm faith. It will not work that way. There is just one way to grow in the faith of God, in the knowledge of God, and that is by the study of God's Word. "Faith cometh by hearing, and



Evangelist Hyman Appleman

hearing by the Word of God."

Let me illustrate. You know we have all sorts of definitions for faith. How many of you believe that Jesus Christ died for the sins of the world? Will you raise your hands? Well, why do you believe it? Did you see Him die? Tell me, why do you believe it? Because the Bible says so. There isn't any other record of it. There isn't any other acceptable record. All right! How many of you believe that Jesus Christ was raised from the dead? Will you raise your hands? Sure you do! So do I! So do the great majority of the multitudes listening in on the radio, at least great numbers of them. Why do you believe that Jesus Christ was

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REVIVAL IN TEXAS PRISON SYSTEM

"Some 400 to 450 Who Have Accepted The Lord In The Past 7 or 8 months"

From time to time we have received reports of many prisoners being saved in the Texas Prison System. Mr. A. C. Smith of Post Office Box 200, San Antonio, Texas, carries on, by mail, a remarkable work among the prisoners, sending them the copies of the booklet, "What Must I do to Be Saved?" and, "All Have Sinned," by the editor of *The Sword of the Lord*; sending Bibles to the new converts, and continually giving counsel and teaching and help to the new converts. Under date of April 1, our dear Brother Smith writes:

"Now for a wonderful report for this week.

"From our 'Paul' behind the walls at Huntsville, the

main prison, and who in 60 days has already sent in 52 signed pledges out of the tract "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" came an even 30 more all on the page out of the booklet, this makes a total of 82 for this young man.

"From Harlem No. 1 (Richmond) came one pledge out of the booklet "All Have Sinned" and who was led to Christ by another inmate.

"From Central No 2 (Sugarland) came 29 names all listed in a letter (letter attached) and this letter shows that 13 had accepted the Lord through the tract "What Must I do to Be Saved?" Then out of this

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THE RECORDED JESUS

(Continued from page one)

raised from the dead? Because God says so. Because the Bible says so. Because we have this inerrant Word of God on which to base our conviction and faith.

Now the Bible comes along and says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." The Bible says, "He that believeth on him is not condemned." The Bible says, "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Now, if you believe that Jesus is the Son of God, that He died for your sins, that God raised Him from the dead, because the Bible says so, don't you see how much easier it is after you believe these miraculous things, these wonderful things, humanly speaking, impossible things, how much easier, I repeat, is it then to believe that God will do what He says He will do when you do what God, tells you to do.

That is what faith means; just dependence on God's Word. If you were to ask me, "Are you a Christian?" I should say, "I am." If you were to ask me, "Are you saved?" I should say, "I am." If you were to ask me, "Are your sins forgiven?" I should say, "They are." If you were to ask me, "How do you know it?" I suppose you would expect me to say, "Because I feel it." Sometimes I feel it, and sometimes I don't. If any of you in this crowd would stand before me and say that you have never doubted your salvation, I should be too polite to call you a liar, but I should know you weren't telling the truth. You have doubted your salvation. So have I. So has every other Christian who has ever lived. But I know that I am saved, not because of my feelings; they are as changeable as Chicago weather, and that is plumb changeable, but on the authority of the Word of God which is unchangeable, the same yesterday, today and forever. My salvation depends on the blessed Word of God.

Now I want us to think about this theme. Listen, take it with you—The Recorded Jesus. The Recorded Jesus. First of all I want us to remember Jesus Christ in prophecy. Back yonder in the Old Testament, in round figures, at least fifteen hundred years before the birth in Bethlehem's manger, Moses made this statement: "The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken." (Deut. 18:15). Listen now, all orthodox Jewish scholars, and all orthodox Christian scholars are unanimous in the conviction that the "prophet" refers to the Messiah.

Now let's take a look even before that. When Jacob blessed his children, he blessed Judah and said, "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come." (Genesis 49:10). Now Judah was not a king. Judah was not a prince. He was just the son of Jacob, and Jacob at best was a rich farmer, a prosperous stock-raiser, perhaps a large land owner, or whatever he might have been. Now orthodox Jewish scholars and orthodox Christian scholars are again unanimous in their declarations, although they differ on the Lord Jesus Christ, that this Shiloh refers to the Messiah.

Later on, hundreds of years after Jacob and Moses had passed off the scene, a Jewish prophet, the greatest of all the writing prophets, Isaiah, brilliant, intensely brilliant, one of the most brilliant minds this world has ever seen, made this statement, "A virgin

shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." Now that is the craziest statement that any man ever made. That is absolutely and totally and unqualifiedly impossible! That is utterly inconceivable! That a virgin should conceive and give birth to a son has never been heard of before or since. One of two things is true. Either Isaiah had lost his mind, or he was telling something outside of himself, something God had given him to say. Now if you were to read the prophet Isaiah, as many of you have, you would know, as well as I do that Isaiah was a long way from having lost his mind. So surely he must have spoken as God gave him utterance.

About the same time, a little later or a little earlier, another prophet by the name of Micah, made this statement. He said, "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." (Micah 5:2). Now how did Micah, seven or eight hundred years before Jesus Christ was ever born, know that Bethlehem—when the King's palace and the King's queen and the King's children were in Jerusalem—how could he say that a ruler would come out of Bethlehem, and what kind of a ruler, whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting? But the question arises, as it will—I was caught in it one time in Kansas City when I was preaching along this line. A man stood up in the congregation and said, "Wait a minute, preacher. Wait a minute now. Don't get so excited." I said, "What is it?" He said, "how do we know but that these things were written after Jesus was born?" I said, "Brother, you are talking to a Jew now." He said, "What difference does that make?" I said, "My people's history shows, my people's history proves, that Genesis, that Deuteronomy, that Isaiah, that Micah were read in the Jewish synagogues hundreds of years before Christ was born. Now that is a proof that would be acceptable in any court, municipal, circuit, superior, or any other court here in Chicago, Illinois, or for that matter, in America.

So there you have the Christ of prophecy. Hundreds of years before He was born the prophets of the Jews, the leaders of the Jews, the statesmen of the Jews, the God-anointed seers of the Jews, fore-told that from Bethlehem would come a Ruler of the Jews who was to be different from anything they had ever had, or for that matter, this world has ever had, a God provided ruler.

The Christ of History

Let's hasten on. The next thing I want us to think about in this record is the Christ of History, the Jesus of History, oh, I wish I had hours instead of these fleeting minutes! Listen to me. Here was a man, reared in Nazareth, in Galilee, Galeel Ha Goyins, the circle of the Gentiles, which to this day among the Jews who know Jewish history is considered an out-cast place, a rif-raff place, a place from which nothing good was ever to be expected, or is to be expected now. There was this Man, reared in a poor town, in a poor home, in a carpenter's shop, without any education, without any rabbinical training. He walked up and down the length and breadth of Palestine. How long did He preach? Three years—three and a half years at the very most, and then He died. How long did He work? Three years—three and a half years at the very most.

Listen. Take the pastor of any church in this town—and they are good men, true men, you have confidence in them. Supposing you saw that pastor day by day, week by week, month by month, year by year, going into saloons, gambling joints, Cabarets, associating with thieves, with harlots, with the whomongers of this town—would you still believe in him? I doubt it seriously. But here is the Man, Jesus, who, all of His recorded life sought out the down-and-outs, lived by choice with the worst that ever existed among His people, yet, although He has been taken apart, analyzed, studied, discussed more than the rest of the

world put together, no one has ever been able to accuse Him of anything indecent, of a right unclean or unholy. Deny that He is the Son of God and answer me these questions. Where did this Man get His learning? Where did this Man get His education? Where did this Man get the wisdom to make pronouncements that have changed the world in almost every way in which it could be changed? Why, the atheist, the infidel, the idolater, the unbelieving Jew, the unbelieving Gentile, all of them, the whole universe, lay the palm at the feet of Jesus in the matter of his keen, inerrant, spiritual understanding of God and man.

Where did this Man get it all? You say as one man told me, a Jewish Rabbi, "I will tell you where He got it. He was a Jew. He was brilliant. The Jews are a notably a religious people." I said, "Rabbi, that is true, but why haven't the Jews produced another Jesus in all of these years? They have Einstein. Just think of the giant Einstein. Why, they have Weizmann. (Some of these names may not be familiar to you, but one of the most brilliant men in the world is Rabbi Stephen Wise in New York). But why is it Rabbi, that there is no man that the Jews have ever produced not even Moses, or any other man for that matter, in the ages that have past, since the times of the Nazarene, who can in the slightest compare with this Jesus?" No, my friends, the knowledge that the Lord Christ had was not His own because He was a brilliant Jew. It came to Him from God. It was inherent in Him. He did not learn it from other men. It came to him by direct revelation from God. He was divine. His life's story abundantly proves it.

Let us think of the death of this Man, as I hurry on. He didn't have to die. He stood before Caiaphas and Caiaphas said, "I swear you in. Tell me, are you the Son of God?" And He said, "Yes." He knew that Caiaphas would destroy Him. He stood before Pilate, and Pilate said, "Art thou the king of the Jews?" And he said, "Thou sayest." Now either one of two things is true; either Jesus was crazy, either Jesus was mad, or He was the Son of God. You can take your choice; I have taken mine eighteen years ago. I believe He was the Son of God. There is just no other way out of it. There is just no other way of explaining it.

The Christ of Experience

Now one more last thing. Not only was He the Christ of prophecy, not only was He the Christ of history; but He is also the Christ of experience. My friends, nationally, internationally, universally, wherever the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ has been given a chance, wherever the teachings of the Son of God have been given an opportunity wherever the Galilean has been preached, wherever the Son of Man has been given the right of way, civilization has felt the impact of His mighty power. Go from one end of this world to the other. Study the east and the west, the north and the south. Is it not a matter of fact, that although the nations, the idolatrous nations, are older than the western nations, the western nations are infinitely greater more prosperous, happier, healthier, better off in every way than those of the east? Why? Because Jesus has had His way in the hearts, the lives, the minds, the activities of the western part of this world of ours.

Just think what Christ has done for individuals. There came an infidel lecturer to a certain town in the West, a gold-mining town. He delivered his lectures night after night. When he got on toward the last night he said, "Now I have proved to you that Jesus Christ is a myth. You don't have to believe in Him any more." There stepped out a man from that crowd, a rough man, a crude man, and said, "Brother, wait a minute. I am an ignorant man. I haven't any education. I don't understand what a myth is, but listen, I want you to explain this. Five years ago I was a drunkard. Five years ago I was a gambler. Five years ago I was an adulterer. Five years ago I abused my wife and my children. Five years ago I was an out-cast, an outlaw of the worst kind. No one had any regard for me,

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any leader; of Dr. Joe Henry Hankins, that moving, marvelously used evangelist, of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, who is winning thousands to Christ; and of many others, the very best in America. New converts need the Bible teaching this paper carries, the firm stand for the fundamentals of the faith. They need answers to questions about amusements for young Christians, and how to live a separated life. Where else would they get such clear teaching on the dangers of the dance, the movies, and other hurtful things that would ruin their testimony and destroy the joy of salvation?

Then why not subscribe to *The Sword of the Lord* for some who have been recently saved, who long to know more about the Bible and God and soul winning? What a blessed investment that would be! In these war times you cannot buy new cars, cannot build new houses, cannot buy electric refrigerators and washing machines. Why not invest your money for God? Why not help get out the gospel while you have good wages? Send *The Sword of the Lord* to five or ten or more young converts and help establish them for life as devout and happy, Spirit-filled, Bible-believing, consecrated Christians!

New converts also need this book on "Bible Baptism." With the heresies and false cults everywhere, with modern ultra-dispensational teachers arising with the dangerous new doctrine that baptism is not for this age, new converts need to get established in the fundamental Bible truths: of salvation by grace alone, the need for public profession of faith, and the important place Jesus gave baptism, in His plan, as a definite, bold symbol that all is now laid on the altar for Christ. Through this book new converts will learn these three great lessons. First, that baptism is not essential to salvation, since salvation is by grace alone through faith; second, that baptism clearly pictures how Christ died for us and rose again and how the believer identifies himself with the death of Christ and the atonement He has made; and third how the new convert, in baptism, professes to lay all on the altar for Jesus, to live a resurrected life with Christ, counting himself dead to sin but alive to righteousness. Converts need the Bible information, the clear grasp of the great fundamentals of the faith, taught in this book. And they need to definitely, boldly, take their stand for Christ, as is taught herein.

So we believe that hundreds and

A man came to this town. He preached the Lord Jesus Christ to me. I accepted Him as my Saviour. I enthroned Him as Lord. I haven't taken a drop of liquor since. My wife has got good clothes. My precious children are bright and happy. I have a good job, a good home, good furniture, a little money in the bank, the respect of my fellow men. What you mean by a myth I do not know, but I believe in this Jesus with all my heart, and I am willing to take my chances with Him.

So am I, friends, so am I willing to take the risk with Jesus. I plead with you that you do the same. There is no risk. He is the Christ, the Son of God. By believing in Him, we do have life through this name.

My Decision for Christ

If here and now you will take Christ as your own Saviour, make this definite decision yours, tell God so on your knees, then sign it today! "I know I am a sinner. I believe that Christ came to earth and died to save sinners as the Old Testament prophesied He would and as the New Testament says He did. Here and now I trust Him to be my own personal Saviour, depending on Him to forgive all my sins and save my soul."

Signed _____

Address _____

Date _____

If you decide for Christ, sign the above, copy it and send to Editor John R. Rice, 145 North Hale Street, Wheaton, Illinois. We shall be glad to tell Brother Appelman of your decision.

hundreds of Christians should invest some of the Lord's Money in sending *The Sword of the Lord* and this new book, "Bible Baptism," to young, eager Christians.

Simply send a list of correct names and full addresses, with one dollar for each. Each will get *The Sword of the Lord* one year and will get the new book of eight chapters, 64 pages, by return mail, unless you designate that the books be sent to another address.

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We could have published this new book, "Bible Baptism", in a nice cloth-bound volume of 128 or 140 pages. There are approximately 31,000 words in the book, and eight full chapters, fully as much as are in many cloth-bound books that sell for one dollar each. And we were tempted to do that, since so many people will keep a large, cloth-bound book when they do not keep a paper-covered volume. But the pastor of a large church pled with the author to make it in inexpensive form so he could buy them by fifties and give them to new converts in his church. Many others pastors had used the same plan with the former small book on baptism which is now greatly enlarged and improved. So we decided to make large pages, putting as much type on a page as possible; we used 9 point type a little larger than the type in this paper) instead of the 10 point type or 12 point type we might have used. Thus we were able to get the book in 64 pages. Then we printed 23,000 copies at once, and got a good price so we could afford to give it as premium with a year's subscription to *The Sword of the Lord*, and sell it at a price all could afford to pay.

However, the book does not look cheap. It has a beautiful repro-

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For Better, Not For Worse

A MANUAL OF CHRISTIAN MATRIMONY

BY WALTER H. MAIER

famous Lutheran Hour preacher, in Concordia Theological Seminary, editor *The Walther League Messenger*.

Here is a great book, "essentially a code of Christian marriage, drawn from the Scriptures, which would help to make marriage 'for better, not for worse,'" says the author. For scholarship, for robust Christian principle, for exhaustive treatment we know of nothing in print to compare with this great book on marriage.

The size of the book is indicated by its 38 full-length chapters, its 600 pages, size about 9 x 6 1/2. Although first copyrighted in 1935, the book has been twice revised with four printings.

Dr. Maier's stand against evolutionary teaching, Freudianism, companionate marriage, the literature of lust, mixed marriages, petting, divorce, and birth control is the strongest we know, backed up by facts, figures and quotations. The book has enormous value, has a resumé of all the important literature on the subject, and particularly because the attitude throughout is Christian, and the position is based upon the Word of God. A doctor of philosophy, Dr. Maier cannot be laughed at.

Young people contemplating marriage should have this book. It should be required reading in Christian colleges. Every minister will find it equal to a shelf full of books in facts and figures and quotations which he will need to use many, many times. An ideal wedding gift. The book is so large (containing about ten times the material in ordinary \$1.00 books) and so important that the price of \$2.50 is extremely moderate.

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Christians Are to Wash One Another's Feet

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was set down. He applied His lesson to the disciples. And now that, in symbol, He has put on His heavenly garments of glory, His lesson is still for us. We are to wash one another's feet.

1. This Does Not Mean That Foot-Washing Should Be a Church Ceremony, a Religious Rite.

Some good people have believed that Jesus meant to establish here a church 'ordinance', to give an official ceremony to be regularly repeated in the church services. Such people have sometimes come to church after carefully bathing their feet and putting on clean hose at home, and then to show their humility (!) Christians with carefully chosen partners, have publicly washed feet that did not need washing, as a symbol of their brotherly love and humility. But such humility has often turned to pride. And poor people who may have needed physical care did not get it and faulty Christians who needed their spiritual feet washed, needed to be restored to fellowship with God and men, were neglected. That is not what Jesus is teaching here. Jesus clearly did not intend to set up a ceremonial rite to be observed officially in the churches.

Several evidences might be given to show that this was not the Saviour's intentions. However, three conclusive ones are mentioned here.

First, Jesus plainly said here that "ye also ought to wash one another's feet, that is far different from a public show of the whole church. Here we are instructed that one Christian ought to be perfectly willing to wash the feet that are dirty and need it. And this command ought to cover other personal attentions and services such as the servant might do for his master. This means holding our brother's coat for him, or it means waiting on him when he is sick, or it means shining his shoes, or pushing his car, or serving him with meals. Jesus taught here personal service, in humility, one Christian for another Christian.

Second, the principal meaning is certainly spiritual. Jesus did not primarily wash the disciples' feet to remove physical dirt. Rather, He was teaching them the blessed lesson that all Christians need their spiritual feet washed; that we need to come to Christ in daily confession of our sins, to have cleansing and forgiveness. So it was not a literal rite, but a deeply spiritual lesson He intended to teach.

Third, and unanswerable, is the well known fact that these disciples themselves did not understand Jesus to mean that they should have foot-washing as a church ceremony. There is not a record, not a hint of any New Testament church having such a ceremony. These apostles understood Jesus perfectly; they knew He was not setting up a church ceremony, a religious rite.

2. Christians Need the Humility That Serves.

Jesus taught us here, not a professional humility, but the genuine humility of a servant who, out of love and duty, takes on the menial tasks. How well good mothers sometimes learn this lesson toward their children! How many millions of mothers have taken it as a commonplace duty, even a privilege, to wash the filthy clothes of their babies, to pick up after their children, to wash and cook and clean house and be the unpaid servants of their own children! Oh, may Christians learn this secret, one toward another, "Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God" (Eph. 5:21).

D. L. Moody, in the Chicago World's Fair near the close of the nineteenth century, brought to Chicago a number of great English preachers for his city-wide

campaign. One English minister, accustomed to having the servant shine his shoes after they were put outside his bedroom door, in England, set his shoes in the hall at Moody Bible Institute where he was quartered. The great D. L. Moody, the most famous preacher in the world at the time, with all the enormous weight of vast enterprises resting upon him, took the English minister's shoes and shined them and returned them to their place outside his door!

Elisha, as a servant poured water on the hands of Elijah. Timothy, Epaphroditus and Philemon, acted as secretaries for Paul, and wrote his letters, tradition tells us. And the saintly Paul himself, meantime, was servant to all, that by all means he might win some. May God give us the humility to be servants. Often real humility and Christ-likeness is shown better by carrying a fellowman's packages, by helping do a sick woman's washing, or sitting up with a sick neighbor who cannot pay a hospital bill, than it is shown by testifying in prayer meeting or singing in the choir!

3. But Primarily, Christians are to Wash One Another's Spiritual Feet.

We are to forgive erring Christians, we are to count them still our beloved brothers and sisters, we are to help restore them to the fellowship of men, and to fellowship with God.

We had as well acknowledge the fact that all Christians walk in a dirty world and need day by day to confess their sins and failures and be cleansed anew. What shall be the attitude of a Christian toward Christians who fail, who do not live as Christians ought, who bring reproach on the cause of Christ? Certainly, the first aim and effort of a Christian in such cases is to seek to wash the dirty feet, that is, seek to help the erring one to see and forsake the way that is wrong, or the sin into which he may have, unawares, fallen, tempted and trapped by Satan. Oh, how wicked it is to hurt an immature Christian, to discourage him, to dis-fellowship him! Jesus said about little children and young Christians, "But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea" (Matt. 18:6). And in the same eighteenth chapter of Matthew Jesus tells us that one who receives one such child Christian in His name, receives the Lord Jesus, tells us how the shepherd seeks a lost sheep, and tells us that if our brother shall trespass against us, there is a sweet plan to gain the brother. First, "go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone." (vs. 15). Tell no one else, bring no charges, hold no grudges. Go see your brother and try to gain him. Second, if he will not hear you, take two or three others with you and try to win him, before the matter is taken to the church. And remember that the object all the time is not to vindicate yourself, but to 'gain thy brother.' That plan will not work if it is to "get even." That plan will not work if it is to vindicate.

(Continued on page four)

Free Until April 28th

(Continued from page two)

duction of a well-known painting on the cover; in color John is pictured baptizing the Lord Jesus in the River Jordan. The paper is nice book paper. The printing work is very high-class and the type is good. We know you will prize your copy highly.

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Revival in Texas Prison System

(Continued from page one)

29, 5 had signed the page out of the tract while they were at Huntsville, Texas, before they were moved to Sugarland, so out of the 29, 18 had signed the slip.

"Today from Huntsville main prison came 3 direct, one signing the page and requesting Bible for himself and two others, who have evidently accepted the Lord, of which I will find out later when I write to them. So the total number of those who have accepted the Lord this week is 63 less the 5 who signed up at Huntsville, making net 58. Of this 58, 45 sent in signed pages out of your booklet. My, this is wonderful; the Holy Spirit is moving on these boys, and really it has only started. Must have some 400 to 450 who have accepted the Lord in the past 7 or 8 months, more possibly than all the churches in San Antonio. Well, we do praise the Lord and thank Him for allowing us to share in this wonderful work, for we give Him all the praise and glory.

"Now for some more wonderful news. In one of my previous letters I spoke of the formation of the *Prisoners' Christian Association* at one of the Units, Central No. 2, Sugarland, Texas, where Hugh Kennedy is head school teacher. It was their own idea to band together, so they sent me a draft of about what they thought their pledge should be and from the draft I had the enclosed pledge mimeographed.

"They wanted a button to wear, and I submitted them titles of a dozen buttons, which I found could be obtained from Cook Publishers, Elgin, Illinois, and they selected the button, "Living for Jesus," one of the buttons enclosed. It shows up fine on a white uniform.

"Thirty-five men have accepted this pledge. They all attend the Bible class and church, they have all accepted Jesus Christ since they have been confined, they are to our "Pauls" in that Unit and now distribute gospels, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" and tracts that I send in. From Mr. Kennedy's letter which I am enclosing you will see that some others who evidently on the surface had accepted the Lord but did not live the life of a Christian, but swore, gambled, etc., they would not allow to join this Association.

"I am mailing one of these to all the members of the Prison Board and the Governor and others, and the moment I get a minute to spare I am going to get some of the other units to organize a branch for their Unit and will have the pledge re-headed to comply with whatever unit is organizing."

Prisoners' Christian Association Founded

Prisoners who have been converted and are now living out and out for the Lord in the Texas Prison System, the unit at Sugarland, Texas, founded a *Prisoners' Christian Association*. Hugh Kennedy is the director and is doing a remarkably intelligent and spiritual work, with the assistance of other Christian prisoners. To join this Association of Christians among the prisoners one must sign a very definite pledge that he is taking Christ as his own personal Saviour, that he will be an earnest Christian in manner of life, etc. Before me I have the mimeographed instruction sheet and pledge from which I quote:

"The purpose of this Association is to bring about a better understanding among the inmates; to provide a brighter outlook and hope for the future through faith in Christ; to give encouragement for the trials and temptations of life by a friendly "lift" in time of need; to play fair and keep a pure conscience in all things; and, above all, to honor the Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour, in our

every day life.

"This Association is not political. It has only one aim, and that is to help one another live such a good Christian life that we shall be an inspiration to one another to maintain a real Christian testimony before others and lead them to accept Christ as their Saviour.

"The following pledge, which each member must sign, is offered to help you in committing yourself to an open confession of Christ in all that you do.

"I, _____, having accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour, hereby pledge myself in becoming a member of the PRISONERS' CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, by the grace of God to observe the following rules:

"1. To conduct myself in a manner becoming a Christian at all times and to be an example of good conduct.

"2. To defend the Christian faith and that for which this Association stands; and to attend Sunday School and Church unless prevented by some reason which I can conscientiously give to my Saviour.

"3. To be a true Christian brother to each member of this Association, giving him help in any way possible, and showing him that respect due him as a man.

"4. To obey all rules and regulations set forth by the Officials of the Texas Prison System; to do all my work in a cheerful and pleasant manner to the best of my ability; and to carry out all assignments in keeping with my position as a follower of Christ.

"5. Never to agitate or cause weaker inmates to break any of the rules of the Texas Prison System; never to indulge in gossip or thievery; but always to try to influence others to do what is right and honorable in accordance with the Bible.

"6. Whenever I can prevent a fellow member of this Association from committing a deed dishonoring to the Lord, unbecoming to a Christian, or contrary to the rules of the PRISONERS' CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, I must do so and I promise faithfully that I will obey this rule.

"I, _____, hereby accept the above pledge and promise by the grace of God to obey the rules as set forth. If I should break or infringe on any of the rules as stated, I understand that I am subject to the findings of a special committee for due punishment, and if the offense is serious, I may be expelled from membership in the Association."

The signing of this pledge is a solemn matter and is to be witnessed by two people and dated. They have adopted a pin with the motto, "Living for Jesus," which every member wears every day. Hugh Kennedy, the director, wrote Brother Smith about it as follows:

".... I am really proud of this Association so far, Brother Smith. The boys are new members. I told them that we would get new members by getting men to accept Christ as their Saviour, and that we would get men to accept Christ as their Saviour by giving out the Word of God. My, they have been working, passing out tracts, gospels, and talking to the boys. Names have come to me every day signed to the tract, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" The Bible class in school is still growing and the attendance at church and Sunday School is getting larger every Sunday. All the boys who have the pins are wearing them all the time and are very proud of them. I made it a rule that they should wear them all the time. I went out the other day without mine and about fifteen stopped me, wanting to know where my pin was. I am having each member to write a statement of his conversion. I already have about fifteen. Some of them are good, but I can see that there is something lacking in some of the testimonies, and I am sure that you can guess what that is without me telling you. We have turned down several boys who wanted to become members. They profess to be Christians, but you could never tell it from their daily life. We are not to judge as to whether a man is saved or not. These boys may be saved, only God knows that, but as long as they curse continually, steal, lie, gamble and do everything else, I cannot have them as a member.

Have had many good comments on the Association, even from the prison officials at Huntsville."

Kennedy also writes to Brother Smith, "I have had several requests for Bibles which I cannot fill, so I am passing the names along to you."

Brother A. C. Smith has been furnishing Bibles to each prisoner who claimed Christ and asked for one, as God provided the means. Several people have given him money to buy Bibles. *The Sword of the Lord* sent \$25.00 recently for that purpose.

Dr. Keith L. Brooks, editor of *Prophecy Magazine*, has contributed fifty of his courses of Bible study which are being used by these new converts in the penitentiary system. They are simple and fine.

The genuineness of these prisoners' faith and love for Christ is illustrated, I think, by two striking facts. First, they will not allow anyone to wear this pin, "Living for Jesus," or to be a member of the *Prisoners' Christian Association*, who curses or gambles, or does not live as a Christian should, even amid the great temptations in the prison; and second, they insist that Christian prisoners shall most strictly keep the rules of the prison, shall not agitate against the authorities, but be subject to them as Christians ought.

How we praise God for the way He is dealing with these hungry-hearted prisoners, and for the hundreds who have been won to Christ through the good work carried on there by Brother A. C. Smith and his helpers, his 'Pauls' behind the walls, as he calls them, including a good chaplain, some prison school teachers, and a good number of earnest Christian converts among the prisoners themselves.

We are glad to furnish literature as God provides the means. Someone who reads this may feel impressed to help furnish Bibles. In that case you may send money to *The Sword of the Lord* or to A. C. Smith, P. O. Box 200, San Antonio, Texas. The Bibles will be given only to men who have claimed Christ as Saviour and who particularly ask for them.

Meantime in every community where there is a jail, someone ought to get copies of *The Sword of the Lord*, of the little booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved," or, "All Have Sinned," and others of our gospel literature to distribute freely to prisoners. They have time to read, their hearts are hungry, and they will respond to love and testimony and the gospel, in many, many cases. Will you see to giving out such good Christian literature in the jail in your town?

Others could do a very similar work in state prisons. As God provides we shall furnish as many copies of the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" as are needed.

Friend reader, have you really entered that peace which comes from an undivided and an unqualified "look" unto Jesus? Thy penman would be unhappy unless he felt the Spirit will cause the hearts of unsaved men to be moved by these pages; more discontented than ever, if evangelical admonition sounded so feebly herein that no sinner was ever saved.

God meets the hunger of lost men in manners strange and by instruments humble. One young lad under deep conviction of sin went questing everywhere in search of gospel light. At last he found it one winter's day, marked by a furious snow storm. The little church into which he entered had a congregation of less than fifteen, and a preacher of poor endowments according to earthly standards. But that humble preacher held up Jesus so faithfully, cried, "Look unto Him!" so repeatedly, that at last the burdened boy did look. It was a look of faith, whereby he threw the whole weight of trust upon the Son of God. And that boy, grown to be a boy, often said, "The cloud was gone, the darkness rolled away, I saw the sun!"

—"Filled! With the Spirit," by Richard Ellsworth Day.

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THE DOCTOR LOOKS DOWN YOUR THROAT

(Continued from page one)

observing your conduct or general condition. And in verses 16 to 18 He is speaking as a Historian recording the cause. So we have the character, the condition, and the cause.

I. As a Judge, God Describes Man's Character

Now, first of all, God again speaks as a Judge in verses 10 to 12. God describes man's character. Verse 10, here it is: "There is none righteous (that is, before God), no, not one." God is holy, just, righteous. Why, in Him there is no variability neither shadow of turning. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. And he sends forth this decree. He says there is none righteous before me; no, not one. Now listen, "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." And search the pages of secular history and come down through the ages and pick out the most sainted men, the most holy men in the eyes of men, and God says they have fallen short of my standard of righteousness. There is none righteous. And some one comes right back at me and says, "What about Job? Doesn't God say that he was perfect and upright and one that feared God and eschewed evil?" Well, if you will notice the fifth verse of the first chapter of Job, (you don't need to turn to it) we see the reason why God says he was perfect. For he "rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all." And by the way of the substituted lamb without spot or blemish, dying in his place and stead, God says Job was perfect. Then when he went through that experience and was stripped of his earthly possessions and of his family, he even says, "How can man be just before God?" Then a little later after the Holy Spirit had unveiled to him the deceitfulness of his own heart, he said, "I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee. Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes." (Job 42: 5, 6) When you get a vision of yourself as God sees you, down in the dust you will go.

What about Isaiah? He said there, "In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple" (Isaiah 6:1). And God had been using Isaiah as a prophet to send out these remarkable statements. And then he saw God high and mighty and he said, "Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts. Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar, the brazen altar (typical of the cross); and he laid it upon my mouth and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged" (vrs. 6, 7).

"All have sinned, all have come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

And then there is Paul in the third chapter of Philippians. He said, "Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but refuse, that I may win Christ, and be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith" (Philippians 3:4-9). "There is none righteous." (Rom. 3:10).

Then in verse 11 of the third chapter of Romans, I want you to see it, "There is none that understandeth." Now follow me carefully. I may say something that may cut right through the quick, but

here it is. There is none that understandeth divine things. 1st Corinthians 2:9, "But as it is written, eye hath not seen." That eye of yours may be the most scientifically trained eye to study the details of certain things down under the magnifying power of the microscope, but that eye, unless you are born again, can never understand nor see spiritual things. "Nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit." "The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." (1st Corinthians 2:14) Now notice, the 'entrance of the Word giveth light.' No man, I don't care who he is or how mighty he may think he is in the realm of learning in this old world of ours, unless he be truly born again, he cannot and never will understand the things of God. In fact, they are foolishness unto him and he takes particular delight in smacking them down. Now, I mean that.

"There is none that seeketh after God," in Romans the third chapter. Adam, after he sinned, what does he do? Fled from the presence of God. It is God who does the seeking and He comes 'to seek and to save that which is lost.'

Again in the third chapter of Romans, they have all abandoned the way, "they are all gone out of the way." "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6). And humanity tonight is out of the way, out of the way of approach back to God. And Christ came and he said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." They are together unprofitable, the Judge says. Now listen carefully. This may not sound very nice in the eyes of society, but here it is. This is a word used by the Greeks for fruit which has been spoiled, literally rotten fruit. The word also means filthy. You read the fifth chapter of Galatians if you want to read how filthy mankind, outside of Christ, really is, the works of the flesh.

II. As a Physician, God Describes Man's Condition

And now the second point of those charges, God as a Physician examines your throat. The doctor looks down the throat. I wonder how many of you have ever gone to a doctor and said, "Doctor, I just don't feel so well." And he said, "Well, sit down, open your mouth, and say, 'Ah.' Let me look down your throat." Oh, and he shakes his head and says, "My, that is terrible. We have got to do something about that." And now here the Physician looks down the throat of the human race, and what does He see? What does He find? Here it is, the 13th verse: "Their throat is an open sepulchre." My! My! My! Notice what He says: Death, decay, moral stench not hidden but open, or revealed in His sight, dead in trespasses and sin and disobedient and deserving of the wrath to come. The great Physician looks down your throat in the natural and sees nothing but an open sepulchre full of dead men's bones.

After looking at your throat, why the doctor looks at your tongue. God says here, "with their tongues they have used deceit." Lying tongues. I often wondered why God had to write this message to the Ephesian church back in the early days, that church that was so fundamental and was so zealous and so out and out for the things of God. He said to that Ephesian church, "Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor . . . Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers" (Eph. 4:25, 29). Then he says, "The poison of asps is under their lips." How that little tongue and lips can wiggle and waggle and talk about its neighbors, and spread poison down through the neighborhood until it assassinates a character before God. Why you know you have heard plenty of it!

The 14th verse, "Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness." Several years ago when up in the mines of Northern California, just out of college (oh, I didn't know the things of God then, and I was there working in that mine), there was a little Irishman, every word it seemed to me was a word of cursing. My, what a filthy atmosphere we had there, I found myself falling into that net. "Their mouth full of cursing and bitterness."

And then "their feet are swift to shed blood." What is happening in this old world today? Their feet are swift to shed blood. It seems that the whole world is a vast laboratory, the scientists and everyone seem to be working feverishly to invent or to manufacture something that has death and destruction in it. "And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword." (Rev. 6:4). Listen, their feet are swift to shed blood.

III. As a Historian, God Describes the Cause

Now notice in verses 16 to 18, the Historian sums it up. He goes back and he looks across the vista of the ages, back and ahead, and He gives this conclusion. He says, "Destruction and misery are in their ways." You read the sixth chapter of Genesis, and as it was in the days of Noah, great violence, and there will be a repetition of those days. "As it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of Man" (Luke 17:26). And I, somehow, am beginning to feel that we are beginning to see the foreshadows of that day, the coming of the Son of Man. The church will go first and then the manifestation of the Man of sin and the great tribulation such as the world has never seen and then the Son of Man coming from Heaven in power and great glory.

Now notice, "And the way of peace have they not known." "There is no peace, saith the Lord, unto the wicked" (Isaiah 48:22). You may cry, "Peace, peace." You may try to legislate peace. You may have a United Nations-of the World for peace. I want to tell you something, there will never be any lasting peace until the Prince of Peace comes back. I am giving you the truth. "And the way of peace have they not known."

And then He sums it all up. Why such a diagnosis? The reason is here in the 18th verse: "There is no fear of God before their eyes." I have seen men walking down the street cursing God to His face with no fear whatever of God in their eyes before Him. Oh listen, He is coming some day to take vengeance on all the ungodly for all their ungodly utterances and for all their ungodly deeds they have committed.

Conclusion

But I am thankful that we can drop down just a verse or two in the third chapter of Romans where God says, "But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested . . . even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." (Rom. 3: 21-24). God is holding back the day of judgment, "not willing that any should perish." He is sending out this glorious message through faithful pastors, Sunday School teachers, missionaries, Christian workers, and He is saying, "What think ye of Christ?" "Be ye reconciled to me through Jesus Christ." What are you going to do if you reject that? How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation? There is no way of escape, no possible way of escape, but the lake of fire.

Let us bow our heads in prayer.

Prayer

Our Father, we thank Thee for the unveiled truth. We may think we are so lovely, so nice, so fine, so refined, so socially adjusted, so educated, but all in Thy sight, our thoughts and our education and all that we have are not Thy thoughts. Thy thoughts are so much higher than ours. And some day Thou art

Christians Are to Wash One Another's Feet

(Continued from page three)

dicate ourselves. That plan will not work if it is to shame those who do wrong. But oh, if it is love's kindly method to restore the broken fellowship and help one you love, God will bless it!

Galatians 6:1, 2 commands us, "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."

"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

There it is again, Christians washing Christians' dirty feet! Christians restoring poor, stumbling, weak Christians to sweet fellowship one with another, and with God!

We "ought to bear the infirmi-

ties of the weak" (Rom. 15:1). Even those weak in the faith, that is, unsound and untaught in doctrine, we are to receive in our churches, just so they do not cause disputes and doubts (Rom. 14:1). And I Corinthians, chapter 5 makes it clear that even Christians who have committed the grosser sins are not to be dismissed from Christian fellowship except when they are repentant and do not take rebuke. And that poor man mentioned in I Corinthians, chapter 5, guilty of fornication with his stepmother and excluded from church fellowship, was not left outside. In II Corinthians 2:5-11 Paul commands that his sins be forgiven since he had repented, and the Corinthians Christians were besought, "that ye would confirm your love toward him." They washed his spiritual feet. That is, they forgave him, they helped him to be restored to the fellowship of Christians and the intimate communion and joy with his heavenly Father, as a wayward child come home. Oh, Christian, let us wash the feet of those about us, with humility, with tears, with compassion, with forgiveness. Let us love and restore them as we would have others do to us in our many failures and sins.

4. How the Apostles Carried Out The Teaching and Example of Jesus.

The timing of this beautiful lesson in humility, forgiveness and restoration of erring Christians was exactly right. Jesus knew that that night Judas would betray Him. He knew that early the next morning Simon Peter would curse and swear and deny that he even knew his Master. He knew that within the three ensuing days all the disciples would be in the blackest despair, utterly abandoning their hope for the resurrection of their Lord. He knew that doubting Thomas would not believe the stories of His resurrection, and that even after Jesus was risen from the dead, Simon Peter would lead a good number of the apostles to forsake their ministry and return to the fishing business. With all that in mind, no doubt, the Saviour washed the disciples' feet and taught them to wash one another's feet.

And they must have taken the lesson to heart! It is one of the marvels of the New Testament that not a single one of the apostles, or any New Testament Christians ever rallied at Judas, ever accused him, not when Judas dipped the sop with Jesus the same night, not when he planted the traitor's kiss on the cheek of our Lord in the garden, not later when Judas hanged himself and went to Hell! Poor, weak, frail Christians, these apostles in humility withheld their hot words, and I cannot but believe they wept over Judas and loved him yet when they learned that he had never been saved, and when they knew his awful perfidy! If they had compassion on Judas, surely they were ever forgiving and kind in restoring one another.

Whoever rebuked Peter for denying the Lord and for his cursing and swearing? What Christian said, "I will never hear such a preacher as that preach!" knowing of Peter's sin?

Who was there that scorned Thomas the doubter?

Who was there to remind James and John of their ambition, their quarrelsome efforts to be first with the Lord Jesus?

It is the work of the Holy Spirit who inspired the gospels, and yet it must be an evidence too of the way these apostles received the teaching of Jesus, that only John, of all the gospel writers, and he long after the death of Joseph of Arimathea, tells us that Joseph was a coward! (Compare John 19: 38, Luke 23:50-53, Matt. 27:57-60).

Christians, we are no better than our Master and Lord. If Jesus washed His disciples' feet, we ought to wash one another's feet. That does not mean foot-washing as a public church ceremony but it does mean humble service one to the other and especially helping erring Christians to have their spiritual feet washed, and restore them to fellowship with God His people. If Christ is so willing to forgive us, let us gladly forgive frail Christians, as we ourselves need daily to be forgiven.

My Decision for Christ

You have read Rev. Fuller's sermon. Do you now see your need of the Saviour? Do you see that without the righteousness of Christ, you are without God and hopelessly lost? Then if so, Jesus is willing to receive you today, if you will turn from your sins and put your trust in Him. Won't you sign the decision form below and mail it to us, or copy it and send to us, to let us know that you have trusted Christ as your Saviour? We shall be glad to let Brother Fuller know of your decision, and we shall send you helpful literature to read and a personal letter of help and encouragement from the editor.

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor
The Sword of the Lord
145 North Hale Street
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

I have read Rev. Fuller's sermon on, "The Doctor Looks Down Your Throat." I here and now confess that I am a lost sinner, but that I now take Christ as my Saviour, and trust Him to forgive me of my sins and to give me everlasting life. I believe that God saves me today for Jesus' sake, and I mail this to let you know.

Signed _____

Address _____

City & State _____